

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-35 are pending in this application. Applicant respectfully requests consideration and examination of claims 2-35.

I. Double Patenting Rejection of Claims 2-35

The examiner has rejected claims 2-35 under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting based on claims in U.S. Patent No. 6, 253,228 B1. Applicant submits concurrently herewith a terminal disclaimer to obviate the double patenting rejection.

II. Rejection of Claims 2-35 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 2-35 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu (US Patent No. 5,953,005) in view of Uchida et al. (US Patent No. 4,583,221). Applicant respectfully disagrees and submits the Liu and Uchida, either alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the embodiments of the invention claimed in independent claims 2-6, 18 and 28 for at least the following reasons. Liu and Uchida, either alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest: (1) a first computer synchronizing information between a second computer and said first computer; and (2) placing keys and values, that are associated with keys and values in a first package, in synchronization

information returned from a second computer. Each of these distinctions will now be discussed in further detail.

1. Liu and Uchida do not teach or suggest synchronizing information between said second computer and said first computer.

Liu describes a synchronization method necessary for playing Karaoke multimedia work. Playing karaoke song data requires the text of the lyrics be displayed while keeping the timing of the text with respect to the music output. Liu describes synchronization information (or data) as the information that allows a computer to handle the timing of the text display while playing the music. Liu does not describe, suggest or anticipate updating data between a first computer and a second computer. The claimed embodiments of the present invention provide means, methods and computer program code that allow a first computer (e.g. a client computer) to synchronize information with a second computer (e.g. a server).

Uchida provides a method of controlling the timing of signals exchanged between a telephone service unit and a telephone set. A control signal is used to transmit a starting pulse followed by a variable synchronizing code (e.g. a train of pulses). Uchida is concerned with signal timing (and communication timing) information between two telephone systems. Uchida does not read on the present invention as the timing information is not equivalent to updating data

between a first computer and a second computer. Furthermore, Uchida describes the invention as an implementation in an electronic circuit board. Uchida does not suggest implementing the invention in computer program code.

Also, Liu does not have any motivation to use the methods of Uchida in any manner that would teach the present invention, because the synchronization in Liu is concerned with the timing of text information with audio output in order to provide playback of the Karaoke data. This synchronization occurs after the karaoke data is downloaded from a server into applets residing at the presenting computer. Therefore, any synchronization between audio and text data occurs solely on the presenting computer; there is no synchronization between computers. Applicant submits that the addition of Uchida would not alter the fact that timing synchronization in Liu occurs on only one computer. Applicant submits that Liu, alone or in view of Uchida, does not describe, suggest or anticipate synchronizing information between a second computer and said first computer.

2. Liu and Uchida do not teach or suggest placing said keys and said values associated with said fist package keys and values in said synchronization information.

Neither Liu nor Uchida describes or suggest passing keys and values back and forth between two computers (e.g. client and server) as synchronization

information. As detailed above, the synchronization of data in Liu is concerned with the timing between the text data and the audio output data of applets executing on a single computer. Liu does not update the karaoke audio and text information from another computer during playback. This is supported by the fact that Liu receives encrypted audio data and text files that are decrypted and assembled on the presenting computer prior to playback. Liu does not describe an updating process using keys and values in synchronization information exchanged by two computers. The client computer in Liu makes simple requests to obtain data from the server. The request may not be equated as an update from the client to the server, and vice-versa.

Therefore, Liu, alone or in view of Uchida et al., does not describe, suggest or anticipate means, methods or a computer readable program code configured to place said keys and said values associated with said first package keys and values in said synchronization information.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that independent claims 2-6, 18 and 28 are allowable over the cited references. Further, submits claims 7-17, 19-27 and 29-35, being dependent upon respective allowable base claims, are also allowable for at least the foregoing reasons.

III. Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that pending claims 2-35 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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